

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EV 336510879 US
DATE DEPOSITED: June 25, 2003

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Donald E. Weder) Atty. Dkt. No. 8403.851
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
Filed: Herewith)
For: POLYMERIC MATERIALS HAVING A)
MATTE FINISH ON A SURFACE THEREOF)

Mail Stop - Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**List of Sections Forming Part of This
Information Disclosure Statement**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)
3. Statements as to Information Not Found in
Patents or Publications (Information not listed in PTO 1449
(Modified))
4. Identification of prior application in which listed
information was already cited and for which no copies
are submitted or need to be submitted.
5. Identification of Person(s) Making this Information
Disclosure Statement

Section 1. Preliminary Statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Section 2. Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

A completed Form 1449 (Modified) is attached hereto.

No Form 1449 (Modified) is attached.

Section 3: Statements as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications (Information not listed in PTO 1449 (Modified))

Plant sleeves are old in the art. Plant sleeves typically are constructed of polymer film or paper. Plant sleeves generally are tapered (trapezoidally shaped) with an open top and an open bottom, although some have a closed bottom. A plant in a pot is placed in the plant sleeve so that the sleeve covers the pot and the plant. In some instances, an upper portion of the plant sleeve is removable along a line of perforations leaving at least a portion of the sleeve around the pot. In some instances, a separate sheet of material is placed about the pot and the remaining bottom portion of the plant sleeve holds this separate sheet of material in place. Alternatively, a floral grouping alone may be placed within the sleeve.

It is also old in the art to form a sheet of material about a flower pot and then place an elastic band around the sheet of material to hold the sheet in

place about the flower pot. In some instances, the band has been positioned about the outer surface of the pot with the sheet of material positioned between the band and the flower pot. In some instances, the band has been positioned above the upper end of the pot thereby causing a portion of the sheet of material to be forced inwardly over the upper end of the pot.

It is also old in the art to form a sheet of material into a conically shaped tube like member referred to commonly in the art as a sleeve. A floral grouping or flower pot with flowers therein can be disposed through the larger open end of the sleeve, wherein the sleeve covers the floral grouping or the flower pot and extends above and around the flowers in the floral grouping or flower pot.

It is also old in the art that cut flowers have been wrapped with the following materials or combinations of materials:

1. Kraft paper plus waxed or unwaxed tissue paper with the flowers being placed next to the waxed paper or tissue paper.
2. Kraft paper plus newspaper plus waxed or unwaxed tissue with the flowers being placed next to the waxed or unwaxed tissue. These three materials have been used to wrap flowers in various combinations such as Kraft paper plus newspaper or Kraft paper plus waxed or unwaxed tissue paper or newspaper plus waxed or unwaxed tissue paper.
3. Waxed or unwaxed tissue paper, polymer films and Kraft paper (treated for water resistance or wet strength or untreated).
4. Polymer film and waxed tissue paper.

Section 4. Identification of Prior Application In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application **U.S. Serial No. 09/921,678**, filed on **August 3, 2001**. The below listed references were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in this prior application. Therefore, copies are not submitted herewith.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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OTHER MATERIALS

GW	"Silver Linings" Brochure, Affinity Diversified Industries, Inc., 1986. The Silver Linings brochure shows a floral sleeve with a closed bottom. The brochure shows, in one embodiment, a vase with flowers inside a "cut flower" sleeve with the sleeve tied with a ribbon about the neck of the vase.
GX	Le Plant Sac Advertisement, published prior to 09/26/1987.
GY	"Derwent Abstract" of FR 2610604A. It is noted that the abstract is an incorrect English translation of the contents of the French patent. The French patent does not enable or disclose adhesively attaching the covering to the container. 1988.
GZ	Speed Cover ®, The Simple Solution For These Peak Volume Periods, Highland Supply Corporation, 1989.
HA	"Speed Sheets and Speed Rolls" Brochure, Highland Supply Corporation, ©1990.
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HC	"Costa Keeps the Christmas Spirit", Supermarket Floral, Sept. 15, 1992.
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HG	Chantler & Chantler brochure showing Zipper Sleeve™ and Florasheet®, published prior to 03/31/1994, 2 pages.
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HI	"Foil Jackets" brochure, Custom Medallion, Inc., December, 1996, 2 pages.

**Section 5. Identification of Person(s) Making this INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

supplied by the inventor(s)

supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)).

in the attorney/agent's file.

Respectfully submitted,



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Agent for Applicant

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)				
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AB	583925			McGowan	06/01/1897		
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		First Named Inventor	Donald E. Weder
		Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
		Attorney Docket Number	8403.917
Sheet	2	of	13

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY		
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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				<p>Complete if Known</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>Herewith</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Donald E. Weder</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>8403.917</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	Not Yet Assigned	Filing Date	Herewith	First Named Inventor	Donald E. Weder	Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	Attorney Docket Number	8403.917
Application Number	Not Yet Assigned																
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First Named Inventor	Donald E. Weder																
Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned																
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned																
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Sheet	4	of	13														

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
CI	3888443			Flanigen	06/10/1975	
CJ	3962503			Crawford	06/08/1976	
CK	4043077			Stonehocker	08/23/1977	
CL	4054697			Reed et al.	10/18/1977	
CM	4056646			Westfall et al.	11/01/1977	
CN	4091925			Griffo et al	05/30/1978	
CO	4104845			Hoffman	08/08/1978	
CP	4113100			Suja et al.	09/12/1978	
CQ	4118890			Shore	10/10/1978	
CR	4189868			Tymchuck et al.	02/26/1980	
CS	4199627			Weder et al.	04/22/1980	
CT	4216620			Weder et al.	08/12/1980	
CU	4248347			Trimbee	02/03/1981	
CV	4265049			Gorewitz	05/05/1981	
CW	D259333			Charbonneau	05/26/1981	
CX	4280314			Stuck	07/28/1981	
CY	4292266			Weder et al.	09/29/1981	
CZ	4297811			Weder	11/03/1981	
DA	4333267			Witte	06/08/1982	
DB	4347686			Wood	09/07/1982	

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
DC	4359442			Clemson et al.	11/16/1982	
DD	4380564			Cancio et al.	04/19/1983	
DE	4400910			Koudstall et al.	08/30/1983	
DF	4413725			Bruno et al.	11/08/1983	
DG	D279279			Wagner	06/18/1985	
DH	4546875			Zweber	10/15/1985	
DI	4621733			Hamis	11/11/1986	
DJ	4640079			Stuck	02/03/1987	
DK	4717262			Roen et al.	01/08/1988	
DL	4733521			Weder et al.	03/29/1988	
DM	4765464			Ristvedt	08/23/1988	
DN	4771573			Stengel	09/20/1988	
DO	4773182			Weder et al.	09/27/1988	
DP	4801014			Meadows	01/31/1989	
DQ	4810109			Castel	03/07/1989	
DR	4835834			Weder	06/06/1989	
DS	D301991			Van Sant	07/04/1989	
DT	4941572			Harris	07/17/1990	
DU	4980209			Hill	12/25/1990	
DV	5038930			Holtkamp, Jr.	08/13/1991	

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	DW	5065925		Ridenour	11/19/1991	
	DX	5073161		Weder et al.	12/17/1991	
	DY	5074675		Osgood	12/24/1991	
	DZ	5094060		Caird	03/10/1992	
	EA	5105599		Weder	04/21/1992	
	EB	5111638		Weder	05/12/1992	
	EC	5120382		Weder	06/09/1992	
	ED	5152100		Weder et al.	10/06/1992	
	EE	5181364		Weder	01/26/1993	
	EF	5199242		Weder et al.	04/06/1993	
	EG	5200253		Yamaguchi et al.	04/06/1993	
	EH	5205108		Weder et al.	04/27/1993	
	EI	D335105		Ottenwalder et al.	04/27/1993	
	EJ	5228234		de Klerk et al.	07/20/1993	
	EK	5235782		Landau	08/17/1993	
	EL	5239775		Landau	08/31/1993	
	EM	5249407		Stuck	10/05/1993	
	EN	5259106		Weder et al.	11/09/1993	
	EO	5307606		Weder	05/03/1994	
	EP	5315785		Avôt et al.	05/31/1994	

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
EQ	5345745			Weder	09/13/1994	
ER	5350240			Billman et al.	09/27/1994	
ES	5353575			Stepanek	10/11/1994	
ET	5361482			Weder et al.	11/08/1994	
EU	5388386			Weder	02/14/1995	
EV	5388695			Gilbert	02/14/1995	
EW	5428939			Weder et al.	04/04/1995	
EX	5443670			Landau	08/22/1995	
EY	5448875			Weder	09/12/1995	
EZ	5493809			Weder et al.	02/27/1996	
FA	5496251			Cheng	03/05/1996	
FB	5496252			Gilbert	03/05/1996	
FC	D368025			Sekerak et al.	03/19/1996	
FD	5526932			Weder	06/18/1996	
FE	5572849			Weder et al.	11/12/1996	
FF	5572851			Weder	11/12/1996	
FG	5575133			Weder et al.	11/19/1996	
FH	5617703			Weder	04/08/1997	
FI	5624320			Martinez	04/29/1997	
FJ	5647168			Gilbert	07/17/1997	

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Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
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		Office ³	Number ⁴			
FO		5605		United Kingdom	05/06/1885	
FP		345464		Germany	12/12/1921	
FQ		5139		Germany	11/27/1930	
FR		1166692		Germany	03/06/1964	
FS		1376047		France	09/14/1964	
FT		654427		Belgium	01/02/1965	
FU		1204647		United Kingdom	09/09/1970	
FV		2036163		France	12/24/1970	
FW		1962947		Germany	06/24/1971	
FX		2060812		Germany	11/04/1971	

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		Office ³	Number ⁴			
FY		2137325		France	12/29/1972	
FZ		2147277		Germany	05/03/1973	
GA		560532		Switzerland	04/15/1975	
GB		2272914		France	12/26/1975	
GC		4231978		Australia	06/21/1979	
GD		2748626		Germany	05/03/1979	
GE		2056410		United Kingdom	03/18/1981	
GF		2948265		Germany	05/07/1981	
GG		2074542		United Kingdom	11/04/1981	
GH		2489126		France	03/05/1982	

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		<p>Group Art Unit</p>	<p>Not Yet Assigned</p>
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		Office ³	Number ⁴			
GI		0050990		EPO	05/05/1982	
GJ		2128083		United Kingdom	04/26/1984	
GK		8301709		Netherlands	12/03/1984	
GL		3445799		Germany	06/19/1986	
GM		2610604		France *(See GZ below)	08/12/1988	
GN		2619698		France	03/01/1989	
GO		2603159		France	03/04/1989	
GP		3829281		Germany	05/18/1989	
GQ		3911847		Germany	10/25/1990	
GR		2252708		United Kingdom	08/19/1992	

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First Named Inventor	Donald E. Weder
Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	8403.917

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	GX	"Silver Linings" Brochure, Affinity Diversified Industries, Inc., 1986. The Silver Linings brochure shows a floral sleeve with a closed bottom. The brochure shows, in one embodiment, a vase with flowers inside a "cut flower" sleeve with the sleeve tied with a ribbon about the neck of the vase.	
	GY	Le Plant Sac Advertisement, published prior to 09/26/1987.	
	GZ	"Derwent Abstract" of FR 2610604A. It is noted that the abstract is an incorrect English translation of the contents of the French patent. The French patent does not enable or disclose adhesively attaching the covering to the container. 1988.	
	HA	Speed Cover®, The Simple Solution For These Peak Volume Periods, Highland Supply Corporation, 1989.	
	HB	"Speed Sheets and Speed Rolls" Brochure, Highland Supply Corporation, © 1990.	
	HC	"Color Them Happy with Highlander Products: © 1992.	
	HD	"Costa Keeps the Christmas Spirit", Supermarket Floral, Sept. 15, 1992.	
	HE	"Super Seller", Supermarket Floral, Sept. 15, 1992.	
	HF	"Halloween", Link Magazine, Sept. 1992.	
	HG	"Now More Than Ever", Supermarket Floral, Sept 15, 1992.	
	HF	Chantler & Chantler brochure showing Zipper Sleeve™ and Florasheet®, published prior to 03/31/1994, 2 pages.	

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